

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/662,874

Examiner

Sophia S. Chen

Applicant(s)

ICHIKAWA ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 6/21/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-7,9-14 and 16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 6/23/04 & 2/17/05 (Figs. 4, 5, 8) are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 2 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest an image forming device comprising an information acquisition module that acquires information on color of toner filled in each (emphasis added) toner cartridge from each of storage elements mounted on multiple toner cartridges, which are attached to the image formation device, wherein the specification module specifies formation of the composite color image or formation of the monochromatic image, based on the information on the color of toner acquired by the information acquisition module, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations.

Claims 6 and 13 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest an image formation device comprising the color image adjustment operation detects a toner density of a test toner image formed and sets a control parameter for controlling toner image formation, based on the detected toner density, and wherein the monochromatic image adjustment operation sets a preset monochromatic image parameter value to the control parameter, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations.

Claim 9 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest an image formation method comprising the step (a) specifies formation of the composite color image or formation of the monochromatic image, based on information on color of toner acquired from each (emphasis added) of storage

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elements mounted on multiple toner cartridges, which are attached to an image formation device.

Claim 16 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest an image formation device comprising a specification module that specifies either formation of a composite color image or formation of a monochromatic image, either in response to a power-on operation of the image formation device or in response to attachment of each (emphasis added) toner cartridges, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."



Sophia S. Chen

Primary Examiner

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Ssc

July 5, 2005